G. R. S. 58

Previous references.

Ch 51 of 01-02
Med 67 of 01-02
Med 68 of 02-02
Rev 231 of 02-03

Later references.

Med 35 of 03-04

190 .

(Med)

File No. 232 of 02-03

Serial Nos. 1 — 2

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos.

Part B. for Feb

SUBJECT.

Explanation of Mr S.K. Hanumantha Row Sub. Asst. Surgeon regarding his conduct in the Shimoga Torow poisoning case.

From the Senior Surgeon No. G. 221 dy 13-12-02 Forwards the explanation of Mr. S.K. Hanumantha Rao with his opinion thereon.

To — Do — Do — and the Comptroller No 11682 — 3 Mis 1864 dy 12-2-03

Records the correspondence.

GPB ..8,000—7-4-07

Note:

In Govt prog no 5301-2 / mis 816 dy (xxx) para 4 3-10-02 Mr G-L. Lakshmanasamy was reduced in rank to the Asst Surgeoncy of the 1st class. In the same order, para 5, the Senior Surgeon was requested to obtain Mr S. K. Hanumanta Row's explanation (1) as to why he did not acquaint the Civil Surgeon with the fact that the three persons that died were ill & that they were under his treatment & (2) as to why he did not satisfy himself regarding the cause of their illness before prescribing for the deceased persons the very medicine an overdose of which was said to have brought about that illness, and submit the same with his opinion for the orders of Govt. With his present letter no 9, 221 dated 13-12-02 The Senior Surgeon forwards the explanation called for and states that in his opinion the explanation offered by the Sub. Asst. Surgeon is satisfactory and that the Sub. Asst. Surgeon and the Civil Surgeon were not in good

good terms, which fact probably accounts for neither of them speaking to each other about the Case.

In his explanation, Mr. S. K. Hanumantha Row, Sub Assistant Surgeon says as regards point 1 above, that in accordance with the practice followed at Shimoga from a long time, the Civil Surgeon is not informed of the ordinary Cases that are treated by his subordinates as out-patients of the Civil Hospl., and that he did not therefore feel any necessity either to tell the Civil Surgeon or to Consult him at the time. But when he returned to duty to the Civil Hospital in the evening as usual, he says, he in the Course of ~~their~~ Conversation regarding the patients, did acquaint the Civil Surgeon with the nature of the ~~symptoms~~ symptoms that he had observed and the medicine that he had prescribed that morning (15th Febry).

As regards point-2 above, the Sub Assistant Surgeon states that he fully satisfied himself regarding the cause of their (deceased persons) illness by making enquiries to the best of his abilities. He asked both the father

father (the old man that died) and
his son (the 1st witness for the Prosecution)
as to the cause of their vomitings.
He was told by them that they had
taken Epsom salts obtained from
the Hospital, in a decoction of
Senna leaves. He also asked the
Compounder (accused in the Case)
who ~~took the Sub~~ and learnt from
them that he had given the old
man the previous evening (14th Febry)
a purgative dose of Epsom salt.
The Sub Apte Surgeon further examined
the vomitted matters then present, and also the
senna leaves that had been
thrown away. From his examination
and enquiries made as above,
from the info supplied to him by
the old man, his son and father
Marcon, the truthfulness of whose
statements he had no reason to
question, and from the observance
of the condition in which the patients
then lay, he was led to conclude
that the vomitings were due to
an overdose or a strong decoction
of senna leaves & magnesium sulphate.
He Under such circumstances.
and to the best of his Knowledge
the Sub Apte Surgeon says, he prescribed
Bismuth mixtures to check the symptoms
then

then present in the patients. He also states that if he had the least suspicion of the patients having already taken Bismuth, he would not have again prescribed it. His statements before the Magistrate with refree to the medicine he prescribed, are the same in effect as here.

Dr. S. K. Kanmanthan Row deposed before the Magistrate who tried the case "I never told Dr. Lakshamanasamy what I had been told in Domingoe's house please see the Concluding part of his deposition (flag A).

Dr. Lakshamanasamy deposed

I did not ask anyone after seeing the patients at 12 Oclock whether after the purgative was taken, any other medicines had been brought from the Hospital and given to the patients. None there i.e. in the patients' house, told me that K. Row had prescribed Bismuth Sub Nitrate. + + + + + + + . I did not know until the receipt of the Chemical Exr's report that K. Row had prescribed Sub nitrate Bismuth. I received the report on the 26th February. + + +

Flag B.

Flag C.

+ + + + . Until Father Markham
came running and took me to see
the patient, I did not know of a
purgative having been given
from the Hospital. I was under
the impression that I was the first
medical man called for the case, Flag D.
and I prescribed. I was not
told that M. Rowe had given a
mixture, nor did I tell the first
witness not to repeat it. + + +
Until the receipt of the Chemical
Exr's Report and until Mr M. Rowe
told me after seeing it that he had
given Bismuth, I did not know
that M. Rowe had prescribed these
people. + + + + ; and

Mr J. M. Desouza, 1st witness
for Prosecution, deposed

I explained to them (Civil Surgeon) Flag E
what my father had done. + + +

In the departmental enquiry
held by the Senior Surgeon,

J. M. DeSouza stated in
reply to the Senior Surgeon's question Flag F.
"Did you tell the Civil Surgeon that
Mr M. Rowe was treating them"
" Yes and I shewed them the
bottle

bottle and he told me not to give that medicine, but to give the medicine he would prescribe." × × ×;

Father Marcon deposed "As far as I can remember, the medicine given by Dr. Rows was shewn to the Dr. C. Surgeon." × × ×;

Dr. Lakshamanasamy deposed "I did not know until the receipt of the Chemical Exr's report that Sub Asst. Surgeon had been called in to treat the patients"

Flag Q.

Dr. S. K. Kamumanthu Rows stated

On the 15th Febry. in the evening at about 5 P.M., I met the C. S. in the Hospital. He told me of the 2 deaths that had occurred in Domingo's house, to which I replied that I did not know of the deaths. I then told him that I had been called to see them in the morning and had treated them. I also told him what I had prescribed to which he said nothing.

Flag A.

× × × ×

Cross exd. — I came to Hospital about 5 O'Clock in the evening. I met you

on

on the Verandah whilst you were going towards the wards. +++
I do not remember what Hospital Apptos were there. No doctor may have come that day or next. +++++ I remember I came to Hospital at 5 P.M., but do not recollect what time I left. I do not remember having any discussion with you about the case - after the post mortem exn was finished. It is not my habit to tell you about my private patients. I have had no serious cases to treat upto this. I was not questioned about it."

As above stated, the Senior Surgeon considers this explanation satisfactory. Inld.

22/12/02

23/12/1902

Visited the Engine Room & the 2nd Class Cabin

25/12/02

2 wounded Pathans under escort of 2 Orderlies

"While accepting the Senior Surgeon's observations, Government observe that a trained medical attendant should accompany a civil surgeon & his subordinates in the execution of their duties and that no public medicine should be dispensed by them except under the supervision of a competent medical officer" -

7/1 R.D. Mehta 9/1/03 1998

6/1/03

9/1/03 2-1-03 Bombay Castle 2 wounded Pathans under escort of 2 Orderlies

3-1-03

6/1/03

5/2/03

Note Contd

The Senior Surgeon's letter G 221 dated the 13th December, 1902, stating that in his opinion the explanation offered by Dr. S. K. Hanumantha Row, Sub-Assistant Surgeon, in the Shimoga Toxon Poisoning Case was satisfactory, was recorded in Govermt Proc: No 11682-3 dated the 12th Febry: 1903.

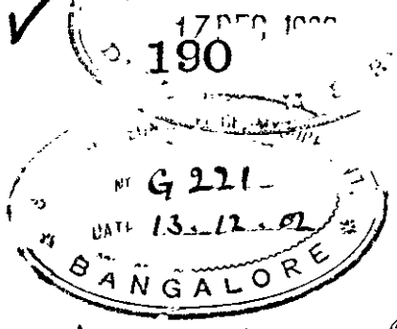
No 3 Mis 1864

SLL
3/8/03

Nos 1862 6808.

81.1 190

FROM



To

H. V. Nanjundayya Esq M.A.B.L
Secy to Govt of Mysore
Genl Revs Depts
Bangalore.

Dated

Despatched

Received

General No.

No.

Enclosure No. 2

Forwarding with the opinion of Senior Surgeon, the explanation of Sub Assistat Surgeon Mr. S. K Hanumantha Rao re the poisoning case.

Genl 17.12.02

Reference

"

2

MGCPB—3-3-01—50 reams.

From

Lt. Col. John Smyth M.D, I.M.S,

For Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commissioner

with the Government of Mysore, Bangalore.

To

H. V. Nanjundayya Esq. M.A, M.L,

Secretary to the Government of Mysore

General and Revenue Departments, Bangalore.

No G221

Dated 13th December 1902

Sir,

With reference to para 5 of Proceedings of Government and order thereon No. 5301-2/Mis. 816 dated 3rd October 1902, I have the honor to forward in original the accompanying Memo No. 723 dated 19-11-02 from the Assistant Surgeon in charge Shemoga District giving cover to the explanation of Sub Assistant Surgeon Mr. S. K. Hanumantha Rao re the poisoning case, and to state that in the opinion of the Senior Surgeon he considers it (explanation) satisfactory and that the Sub Assistant Surgeon and Civil Surgeon were not on good terms which probably accounts for neither of them speaking to each other about the case.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Lt.Col.I.M.S.

For Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commission

Mysore Government.

Dyno: 1228/21.11.02

enclosure received with 17/11/02

Enclosure received on 19/11/02 by

Thro the Civil Surgeon
Shemoga 1902

FROM Lt. H. Hammond Thallan
Sub Asst Surgeon
Shemoga

To Lt-Col P.H. Beaver M.B. I.M.S.
Senior Surgeon Mysore Comd.
with the Govt of Mysore
Bangalore

Dated 13-11-02

Despatched 15-11-02

Received

General No.

No.

Enclosure No. one

223
19.11.02
Mysore

Sir,

In obedience to your No 838 dated 6-11-02, I beg to submit my explanation herewith enclosed. and also beg to be excused for the delay in submission of the above as I had no time to look over my previous statements and explanations as I had confined myself night and day in the Plague Camps till the 8th Inst when I was relieved of the greater part of my duty by the help of an Hospital Assistant.

I beg to remain
Sir
your most obedient servant
H. Hammond Thallan
Sub Asst Surgeon
Shemoga

MGCPB—3-3-01—50 reams.

1. Submitted in original.

H. Srinivasiengar
Asst Surgeon
in ch

19/11/02

Forward to Govt with my opinion that I consider it satisfactory. The Asst Surgeon has not yet got probably learnt what [illegible] accepts for [illegible] to satisfactorily [illegible] the case

[illegible]

To

The Senior Surgeon and Sanitary
Commissioner with the
Government of Mysore
Bangalore.

Sir, In obedience to the order of the Government of Mysore dated 3rd October 1902 calling upon me to answer the two questions referred to therein, I humbly and respectfully beg to submit the following explanation:-

Question I
Why he did not acquaint the Civil Surgeon with the fact that the three persons that died were ill and that they were under his treatment.

On the morning of the 15th February last I visited the three Out-door private patients in question, in their house only a few yards off the Civil Dispensary at the request of Father Mareen at 7-30 Am and again at 8 Am. When I saw the patients twice as stated above I did not observe any extraordinary symptoms, nor were the patients in a dangerous condition. On the other hand I was fully satisfied at the time that the patients were suffering from the effects of an over-dose of Lemna and salts or of a strong decoction of Lemna.

The Civil Surgeon, according to the practice followed here from a long time, is not informed of the ordinary cases that are treated by his subordinates as out-patients of the Civil Hospital. I did not accordingly feel any necessity either to tell the Civil Surgeon or to consult him at the time. On returning from the patient's house to the Civil Hospital I was engaged till 12 noon in prescribing for the out-patients. No information of any kind regarding the condition of the patients reached me subsequent to my last visit, nor was there any call either from the relatives, friends or even from Father Marcon to visit the patients again. When I was about to leave the Hospital the Compounder Gregory came and told me that Father Marcon and Mr Ketelaar and myself were standing in front of the patient's house and that Mr Ketelaar desired me to send with him 3 doses of effervescing powders for the use of the patient in question. Which I accordingly did. The Civil Surgeon did not at all consult me or ask me as to what I had observed and prescribed for the patients that morning

When I returned to duty to the Civil Hospital in the evening as usual, in the course of our conversation regarding the patients, I did acquaint the Civil Surgeon with the nature of the symptoms that I had observed and the medicine that I had prescribed that morning.

Question II
Why he did not satisfy himself regarding the cause of their illness before prescribing for them the very medicine an overdose of which was said to have brought about that illness.

When I saw the three patients on the morning of the above said date I fully satisfied myself regarding the cause of their illness by making enquiries to the best of my abilities. I asked both the father and the son as to the cause of their vomiting and they told me that salts (magnesium sulphate) had been obtained from the Compounder Gregory in the Civil Hospital on the previous evening and it was dissolved and taken in senna decoction that morning. And on enquiry of the Compounder Gregory I learnt that he had given the old man the previous evening a purgative dose of Magnesium sulphate. From all this, from the condition of the patients then observed and the examination of the vomitted matters then present, and also of the thrown away senna leaves, I was led to conclude that the vomitings were due to an overdose of a strong decoction

of the very drug which they stated, and I believed, had been taken viz Senna and magnesium sulphate. There was not the least ground for me to assume that the patients had taken Bismuth. And there was no reason for me to question the truthfulness of the information supplied to me by the elderly spatient, his son and father in law. that the patients had taken only senna and salts. Under the above circumstances, and to the best of my knowledge, I prescribed Bismuth mixtures to check the symptoms that were then present. If I had the least suspicion of their having already taken Bismuth I would not have prescribed it again.

The above explanation, I humbly submit, will meet with your kind approval and support.

I beg to remain
Sir.
Your most obedient Servant

S. H. Hammuntha Rao
Sub Assistant Surgeon
Shimoga

Dated 13th November 1902.

D 1903 81.2

Read:—Letter No 2921 dated the 13th December, 1902, from the Senior Surgeon and Sanitary Commr with the Govt of Mysore, submitting with reference to para 5 of Govt Proceedings No 5301-2 Mis 816 dated the 3rd October, 1902, the explanation thereon called for, of Mr S. K. Hanumantha Row, Sub Assistant Surgeon, in the Shimoga Town Poisoning Case, and stating that in his opinion the Committee the explanation satisfactory

Order thereon 1182-3 Mis. 1864
8/12/03.
Recorded.

Submit to the 2nd Sec. before issue
7/2/03

Sec 8/12/03

Steward's order
7/2/03

Sec'y
8/2/03

To,
The Senior Surgeon
" Comptroller